

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application. Claims 1-27 currently stand rejected. Claims 1, 10, 23 and 15 are amended herein. Claims 14 and 27 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 15 are amended herein to incorporate the limitations of claims 14 and 27, respectively. Claims 10 and 23 are amended to reflect the amendments to their base claims (claims 1 and 15, respectively), preserving antecedent basis.

The Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the following remarks and allowance of the claims.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-19 and 21-27 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obvious-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-68 of U.S. patent No. 6,690,664 (hereinafter '0664'). A terminal disclaimer is included herein to overcome the rejection.

Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-19 and 21-27 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obvious-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-32 and 65-96 of U.S. patent No. 6,473,505 (hereinafter '3505'). A terminal disclaimer is included herein to overcome the rejection.

Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-19 and 21-27 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obvious-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-31 and 63-93 of U.S. patent No. 7,043,004 (hereinafter '3004'). A terminal disclaimer is included herein to overcome the rejection.

Claims 1-2, 9, 15-16 and 22 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obvious-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4, 10-14 and 20 of U.S. patent application No. 11/369,068 (hereinafter '9068'). A terminal disclaimer is included herein to overcome the rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection

Claims 1-10, 12, 14-23, 25 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,470,008 (Khuc). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for at least the following reasons.

Amended claim 1 recites a method of operating a telecommunications network, the method comprising:

- receiving signaling for a voice call;
- processing the signaling to generate a query to a call center having a plurality of devices within the call center;
- transmitting the query to the call center;
- receiving a query response wherein the query response includes a packet address that identifies a device from among the plurality of devices within the call center;
- transferring communications for the voice call to the device in packets wherein the packets include headers having the packet address allowing the call to be routed within the call center to the device without requiring translation within call center.

Khuc does not teach a packet address that identifies a device from among the plurality of devices within a call center, as recited in claim 1. Khuc discloses a routing system that provides internet addresses in response to the queries from internet gateways. More particularly, Khuc discloses a routing system that processes telephone numbers to identify the proper internet address for the communication. (col. 2, lines 29-31). Khuc is silent regarding the disclosure of a query response that includes a packet address that identifies a device of a plurality of devices within a call center.

Moreover Khuc does not teach transferring communications for the voice call to the device in packets wherein the packets include headers having the packet address allowing the call to be routed within the call center to the device *without requiring translation within call center*, as recited in claim 1. As discussed above, Khuc discloses a routing system that processes telephone numbers to identify the proper internet address for communication. However, even with the proper call center internet address, a call to a call center requires further processing, within the call center, in order to route the call to the identified device within the call center. Khuc is silent regarding transferring communications for the voice call in packets that do not require translation within the call center.

For at least these reasons, Khuc cannot anticipate claim 1. Claim 1 is therefore patentable over the cited reference, and such indication is respectfully requested. Independent claim 15 is rejected for similar reasons to claim 1. Amended claim 15 contains limitations similar to claim 1 and is therefore allowable over the art of record for the same reasons as claim 1. While separately allowable over the art of record, the remaining dependent claims depend

from otherwise allowable independent claims. The Applicant therefore refrains from a discussion of the dependent claims.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Claims 11, 13, 24 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,470,008 (Khuc).

A discussion of this rejection is obviated in view of 35 U.S.C. §103(a)(c)(1) because Khuc and the present application share a common assignee, Sprint Communications Company.

Moreover, a discussion of this rejection is obviated in view of the discussion above distinguishing Khuc from independent claims 1 and 15. While separately allowable over the art of record, the remaining dependent claims depend from otherwise allowable independent claims. The Applicant therefore refrains from a discussion of the dependent claims.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above remarks, the Applicant submits that the claims in their present form are allowable. Additional reasons in support of patentability exist, but such reasons are omitted in the interests of clarity and brevity. The Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the claims.

The Applicant hereby authorizes the Office to charge Deposit Account No. 21-0765 the appropriate fee for the Terminal Disclaimers filed herewith and for a two-month extension of time. The Applicant believes no additional fees are due with respect to this filing. However, should the Office determine additional fees are necessary, the Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 21-0765 accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Stephen S. Roche /

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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